

"Still
The Second
Best Thing
About Payday"

The NIH Record

Feisty Responses Elicited

New Seminar Series Draws Throng on Opening Day

Although its topic was perhaps a tad dry, the first session of NIH's new Executive Speakers Seminar drew a crowd to Lipsett Amphitheater on Jan. 11. Hundreds turned out to hear the latest regulations governing outside activities and sponsored travel for NIH employees.

Tackling the issues were Stephen Benowitz, director of the Division of Personnel Management, who spoke on current NIH rules that loosen limits on federal workers' ability to draw income from outside sources, and John Mahoney, NIH associate director for administration, who set the record straight on travel reimbursement for NIH'ers.

It might almost have been appropriate to list "audience" as speakers on the program as well, so often did outspokenness crop up amid the gathering. At several points, Benowitz and Mahoney yielded the floor to prominent members of NIH's intramural staff whose grasp of the issues was at least impassioned if not always letter-perfect.

The liberalization of Office of Government Ethics (OGE) standards that takes effect Feb. 3 will have "no significant impact on outside activities as they now exist," reported Benowitz. The ban on receipt of honoraria that has been in effect since Jan. 1, 1991, still stands, he added, pending the outcome of an appeal lodged with the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals. For the time being, hono-

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'One NIH, Many Cultures'

King Program Finds Common Ground, Plants Seed

By Carla Garnett

On Friday, Jan. 15, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. would have been 64 years old, but he would not have been happy. In fact, according to Howard University president and NIH commemorative program speaker Dr. Franklyn G. Jenifer, King would have looked at the state of the country, reflected on the battle for civil rights and freedom "and he would have cried.

"I honestly believe," Jenifer continued, "that if he were here to reflect on the things he stood for, the dreams he saw, the battles he fought and the promises that were made, he would be saddened. Because although we've come a long way, we've still got so far to go."

Celebrated on the actual day of King's birth, NIH's program evoked mixed emotions that seemed to run the gamut from incredible joy and hope to profound discontent.

In welcoming remarks, Diane Armstrong, director of NIH's Office of Equal Opportunity, captured the essence of the feelings.

"I know you will feel entirely different when you leave here than you felt when you arrived,"

(See KING, Page 4)



This student's expression tells its own story—feeling a cow's heart is...well, unique. A promising new program offers to bring these and other unique feelings to young prospective scientists at NIH.

Kids Explore Through 'Adventure in Science'

By Anne Barber

A student sits at a desk taking a science test. The exam results come back; an A. To most of us, that would signify knowledge of the material and we would be pleased with the results. Not so for Dr. Edward E. Max, chief, Laboratory of Cell and Viral Regulation at FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research. He feels that memorizing or knowing the answers on a science exam is not enough. "I want the students to see for themselves or at least know about the experiments that led up to the answer because that's where the fun of science is—making deductions from clues like in a detective mystery. Memorizing the solution to a lot of mysteries is pretty boring and never shows you how to think logically for yourself." Max is not alone in his thinking. He joins Dr. Ralph R. Nash (a NASA physicist, now retired) who 20 years ago shared

(See SCIENCE ADVENTURES, Page 6)

Depression, Substance Abuse Disorders Show Genetic Link

By Lynn J. Cave

A National Institute of Mental Health study released in December provides compelling evidence of a genetic link between clinical depression and substance abuse disorders.

"This means that if someone in your family suffers from severe depression, you and other family members need to be aware that not only are you at risk for developing depression, you also may stand an increased chance of developing a substance abuse disorder," said Dr. Loring J. Ingraham, an NIMH intramural scientist in the Laboratory of Psychology and Psychopathology who conducted the study. His co-investigator on the research is Dr. Paul H. Wender, a former NIMH scientist now at the University of Utah.

Researchers have known for some time that a strong genetic component exists for certain forms of severe depressive illness. They have

(See DEPRESSION, Page 2)

NIH Celebrates African American History Month

February is set aside for the nation's annual observance of African American History. In keeping with the 1993 national theme, "Afro-American Scholars: Writers, Leaders, and Activists," the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) Black Employment Program and the NIH Black employees advisory committee have planned several activities that will give all NIH employees an opportunity to explore the heritage and recognize the contributions of African Americans. This year's observance includes an

(See BLACK HISTORY, Page 5)

SEMINAR TACKLES NEW GOVERNMENT ETHICS GUIDELINES

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aria must be placed in an escrow account held by the donating organization.

"We have no idea how long the court will take to make a decision on this matter," said Michele Russell-Einhorn, an attorney who works for the HHS Office of the Special Counsel for Ethics but is stationed at NIH. "It could be a month or it could be next year."

Benowitz said NIH director Dr. Bernadine Healy is among those who support repeal of the ban on receipt of honoraria.

There are instances where honoraria are acceptable, continued Benowitz. Under certain restrictions, teaching, speaking, writing, editing and consulting are perfectly okay for federal workers. A formal "NIH Instruction" clarifying changes in OGE regulations is in the process of being drafted by a committee chaired by Dr. Lance Liotta, NIH deputy director for intramural research.

Mahoney reported that, prior to restrictions in NIH's travel budget introduced last year, only about 7 percent of all NIH official travel was sponsored by outside groups in 1991. Last year, however, that percentage grew to 26 as federal funds for trips off-campus dried up. While sponsored travel is only supposed to be approved in exceptional circumstances, there is no formal limit on the amount an agency can allow, he said. NIH is committed to the idea that sponsored travel is essential to the agency's enterprise, he assured.

Mahoney called the seminar series "a useful forum for communicating between the two worlds at NIH, science and administration."

Future editions of the series would do well to match the interest of the first. For information about the Executive Speaker series, contact Cassandra Isom, 496-2496.—Rich McManus □

DEPRESSION, ABUSE DISORDERS TRACED TO GENES

(Continued from Page 1)

known too that if one person in a family has a substance abuse disorder, other relatives are at risk for becoming addicted to alcohol or other drugs. But, until now, scientists have had difficulty separating out the influence of genetic from environmental factors when the illnesses occurred together in the same family.

This is the first study to provide strong evidence of a genetically transmitted liability for the relatives of depressed people to develop substance abuse as well as depressive disorders, said Ingraham.

The investigators found that people biologically related to depressed individuals were about twice as likely as relatives of non-depressed people to develop either a depressive or a substance abuse disorder—usually alcoholism. The research results were released at the annual meeting of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology in Puerto Rico.

The findings come from a study of 67 people in Scandinavia who were adopted as babies and hospitalized for the treatment of a depressive illness sometime during their lifetimes. The frequency of depression or substance abuse in their biological and adopted families was compared to that of families of adoptees with no history of depressive illness.

Scandinavian countries keep centralized adoption and hospitalization records for their citizens, permitting collection of data on adoptive and biological families that is not possible elsewhere, said Wender, who collected the data for the study.

The researchers' examination of hospital records showed that among adoptees with a depressive disorder, about 5 percent of their biological relatives also had a depressive disorder, while another 4 percent had a substance abuse disorder.

On the other hand, among the biological

relatives of nondepressed adoptees, the frequency of hospitalization for either depression or substance abuse was about half as great—each of these illnesses occurred in only 2 percent of the cases.

The frequency of depression or substance abuse requiring a hospital stay in the adoptive relatives of both sets of adoptees was between 1 and 2 percent. This is about the rate of hospitalization for these disorders in the general population, said Ingraham.

"The beauty of this adoption study is that it addresses both genetic and environmental influences in a way that allows one to sort them out," said NIMH director Dr. Frederick K. Goodwin. "The fact that a given mental illness runs in families can't tell you how much of the tendency is learned versus inherited. By looking at people who had been adopted at very early ages, this study provides clear evidence that an increased frequency of substance abuse in the biological relatives of people with a depressive disorder reflects genetic factors."

Nevertheless, he pointed out, "it is important to remember that environmental factors may play a pivotal role in the progression of these illnesses."

The NIMH study also confirmed past studies showing that men tend to suffer more from substance abuse disorders than women and that women tend to be more likely to have depressive disorders than men. Hospital records showed that about 7 percent of the male biological relatives of adoptees with a depressive disorder had a history of substance abuse requiring hospitalization, compared with about 4 percent of the female relatives. About 7 percent of the female biological relatives of adoptees with a depressive disorder also had a depressive disorder, compared to about 3 percent of the male relatives. □



Dr. Christopher Schonwalder was recently appointed assistant to the director for program coordination for NIEHS. He will work on a wide variety of programmatic issues including attracting new scientists to environmental health research. Prior to this appointment, he served as chief of the Scientific Programs Branch in NIEHS' Division of Extramural Research and Training. A graduate of NIH's Grants Associate Program, Schonwalder received his Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1968 from Penn State.

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NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Room 2B-03
Phone 496-2125
Fax 402-1485

Editor
Richard McManus

Assistant Editor
Anne Barber

Staff Writer
Carla Garnett

Editorial Assistant
Marilyn Berman

Correspondents:

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NIDDK Holds Symposium on Genetic Disease Therapy

By Mark T. Sampson

An overflow crowd of some 500 scientists packed Masur Auditorium recently to absorb the latest information on the rapidly advancing field of genetic disease therapy.

The NIDDK symposium, "The Impact of Molecular Genetics on the Treatment of Genetic Diseases," was the first of its kind to update the current state of knowledge on the budding field. Although major advances have been made over the past two decades unraveling the molecular nature of diseases such as cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia, cancer, and AIDS, researchers have not yet perfected genetic interventions enough to cure these conditions, according to Dr. David G. Badman, NIDDK Hematology Program director.

"For that we need more basic research on gene manipulation to target these intrinsigent diseases," says Badman, who, with Dr. Alan S. Schechter, chief of NIDDK's Laboratory of Chemical Biology, organized the symposium.

One highlight was a lecture by gene therapy pioneer Dr. W. French Anderson, formerly of NHLBI. He was instrumental in winning approval for the first gene therapy protocol, which treated a 4-year-old girl with adenosine deaminase deficiency, a fatal blood disorder. Performed in 1990, the treatment was successful.

Anderson believes the field is growing rapidly, citing 15 ongoing human gene therapy protocols and 22 future protocols.

Like most of the meeting's participants, Anderson acknowledged that the much heralded arrival of gene therapy was not without flaws. A major hurdle, he said, was the development of an injectable vector, which would cut costs and increase treatment availability. But Anderson added that successful treatment of the major diseases, such as cancer and AIDS, is "a long way down the road."

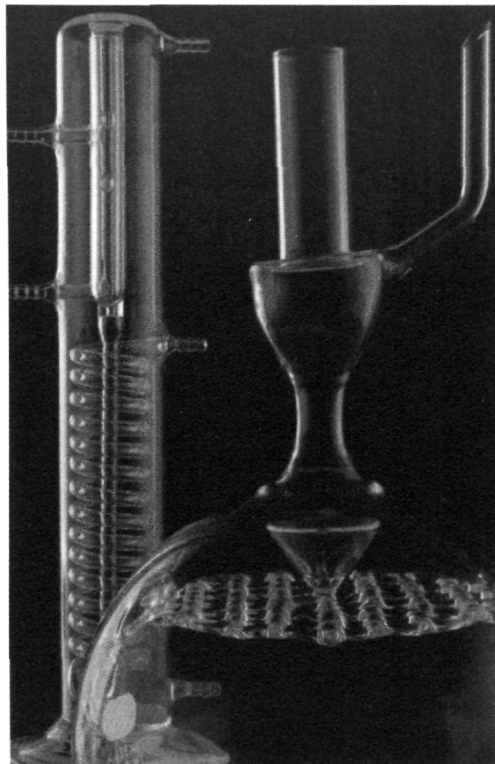
Other topics, including "Introduction of Genes into Cells" and "Regulation of Gene Expression" focused on the feasibility of several techniques for genetic intervention. Classic gene replacement therapy involves removing cells from the body, inserting the desired genes, and replacing the corrected cells in the body so that they produce either a missing or a desired product. In insulin-dependent diabetes, for example, the missing protein insulin might be produced.

For other diseases, gene modulation might be the answer. With this technique, drugs might be given to alter existing gene expression. In a disease such as sickle cell anemia, a drug might empower the genes to increase the production of nonsickling fetal hemoglobin, thus alleviating the clinical symptoms such as anemia and blood vessel blockage.

Another approach, bone marrow transplantation, allows doctors to replace defective gene products in the diseased marrow with normal gene products from healthy marrow. In

another lecture, 1990 Nobel laureate Dr. E. Donnall Thomas pointed out that he and his colleagues have been transferring genes for years through bone marrow transplantation.

Speakers also explored which viruses serve as the best vectors for delivering corrected genes to their intended target, as well as which cells serve as the best targets for these viruses. A favored virus was the adeno-associated virus (AAV),



which is able to infect cells without causing disease. Unlike the retrovirus, another much-studied vector, AAV is able to infect specific gene sites, a prerequisite for gene targeting.

Blood-forming stem cells, found in bone marrow, were declared the target of choice for gene therapy of many disorders. Because these cells are precursors of other blood cells, changing their genetic makeup causes permanent correction of genetic defects as new blood cells are formed. Researchers are particularly interested in getting these cells to enhance immune response, an accomplishment with obvious implications for fighting HIV infection.

According to Badman, the meeting will result in future workshops and NIDDK initiatives. □

Nonsmoking Volunteers Needed

USUHS' department of medical psychology is seeking healthy, normotensive, nonsmoking females and males, ages 18-45, to participate in a health study. Participants will be paid \$140 upon completion of two laboratory sessions, scheduled from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., during which blood samples will be taken. If interested, call (301) 295-3263. □

Obesity Lecture Series Continues

Dr. Jules Hirsch will speak on "Human Studies on Obesity," Feb. 10, as part of the second NIDDK Clinical Nutrition and Obesity Lecture Series. This lecture is dedicated to the memory of former NIH director Dr. William Henry Sebrell, a noted nutrition researcher.

As physician-in-chief and Sherman M. Fairchild professor at Rockefeller University, Hirsch's primary research efforts concern the prevention and treatment of obesity in humans.

On Apr. 21, Dr. William H. Dietz, Jr. will speak on "Critical Periods in the Development of Childhood Obesity." The other speakers scheduled to participate in the series include: Dr. Rena R. Wing, "Behavioral Approaches to the Treatment of Obesity and Type II Diabetes," May 26; and Dr. John P. Foreyt, "Living Without Dieting," June 16.

James O. Hill's Jan. 27 lecture on "Physical Activity, Diet and Body Composition" was the series opener. This year's speakers are also members of the national task force on prevention and treatment of obesity recently established by the National Digestive Diseases Advisory Board and NIDDK.

"We're fortunate to have nationally and internationally known speakers currently researching clinical nutrition and obesity," said Dr. Van S. Hubbard, director of nutritional sciences for NIDDK. "Their lectures will highlight the implications of recent research findings for prevention and treatment of this serious problem."

All lectures are scheduled at 7 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. For more information, contact Hubbard, 496-7823. □

Durbin To Give Next Genome Lecture

Dr. Richard Durbin is the sixth speaker of the 1992-1993 Human Genome Lecture Series. Titled "The ACEDB Genome Database and Data Analysis from the Nematode Sequencing Project," his lecture will be held Feb. 18 at 11:30 a.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. The talk will focus on the development of ACEDB, the *C. elegans* genome database, and data analysis from the nematode sequencing project.

Durbin conducts research at the Medical Research Council (MRC) Laboratory of Molecular Biology, where he is currently developing informatics for the *Caenorhabditis elegans* DNA sequencing project. Geneticists at MRC and in the United States have mapped about 95 percent of the DNA of *C. elegans* and have now undertaken the task of sequencing the estimated 100 million chemical bases that comprise the worm's genome. Durbin received his B.A. in mathematics in 1982 from St. John's College in Cambridge, England, and his Ph.D. from the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, where he studied the development and organization of the *C. elegans* nervous system. □

KING

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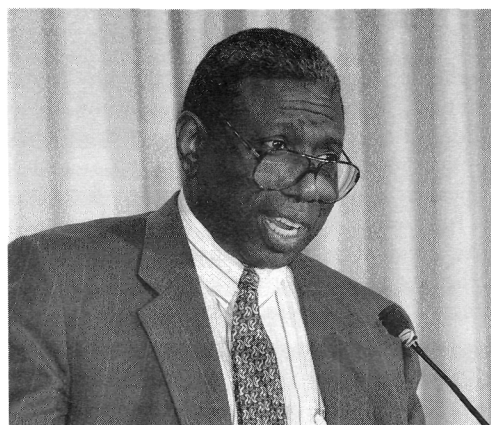
she said. She was right.

From the presenting of the color guard and the poignant, *a capella* rendition of the National Anthem, through the spirituals by the Howard University Singers and the heartfelt reading of a litany by a variety of NIH'ers in cultural dress and native language, to Jenifer's sad, but truthful diagnosis and prognosis of the ailing United States, a common spirit seemed to be pervasive: We want to celebrate our success and promise, but in the face of our current condition, how can we?

Jenifer said he suffered the same sort of helplessness and frustration in his freshman year at Rutgers University. Growing up African American, he said, he knew he must be angry about his oppression. And he vowed not just to be angry, but to be active in his anger. So he organized his peers and prepared to confront the dean. He was met by a calm, reasonable dean who proceeded to present figures and statistics defending Rutgers' civil rights and equal opportunity records.

Met with such proof, Jenifer said the wind was taken right out of his sails.

"We knew we felt bad," he said, "but we couldn't prove it. We knew there were racists



Dr. Franklyn G. Jenifer, Howard University president, gave the keynote address at the NIH Dr. Martin Luther King Commemorative Program.

around, but we couldn't find them." Then, Jenifer said, he turned the search inward.

"The real villains are you and me," he asserted. "That's what makes this new racism so insidious."

Jenifer presented familiar yet shocking statistics and forecasts for the nation: Violence is the second leading cause of death for young people and the number one cause for African Americans ages 15 to 24. One in 1,000 Black

males ages 15 to 34 will die a victim of violence. Between 1979 and 1987, 66,000 Black men died of homicide. In Washington, D.C., there are more people in jail, per capita, than anywhere else in the world. Forty-three percent of minority children are born in poverty.

"What scary facts," Jenifer exclaimed, "in the land of hope, in the land of promise." Citing the changing face of the world's economic powers, Jenifer said America is not preparing the present generation of minorities—the brown and black faces of the future—to compete on most technological fronts.

"We're losing the war," he said, "and the victims of the loss are the people who live in our urban centers."

Transmitted live for the first time to NIH outposts as far away as Hamilton, Mont., the program also featured Olympic rhythmic gymnast Tamara Levinson. The program planning committee, chaired by OEO's O.H. Laster, concentrated on expressing the multicultural aspects of NIH, which were brought to life colorfully through the unique interpretation of the litany. In an effort to unite all of NIH in the celebration, the King commemoration served more as a call to arms, a rejection of complacency. Jenifer challenged those crowded in Masur Auditorium and in

NIEHS Holds First King Observance, Historic Speech Revisited

The words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. served as the keynote address for the first NIEHS commemorative observance of his birthday. The observance was held Jan. 15 in the NIEHS Conference Center. A videotape was played of King's "I Have A Dream" speech, delivered Aug. 28, 1963, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, and participants were given a text of the speech. The black and white videotape, played on a regular-size television, rang a particularly resonant chord for those old enough to have first seen it telecast when King delivered it. King, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., on Apr. 4, 1968.

Dr. Marian Johnson-Thompson, NIEHS director of institutional development, delivered introductory remarks, noting that King, as a man of extreme sacrifice, fought for the fundamental rights of all people.

"His dream was that one day all people would look at each other and treat each other as equals," she said, calling for a moment of silence in King's memory.

Arnetta Wicker of NIEHS's budget office coordinated the observance and introduced three musicians who performed at the program. Gwendolyn Haskins, retired assistant professor of music at North Carolina Central University (NCCU), recalled meeting King in the early 1960's, and also meeting his father, who told her that his son was especially fond of the poetry of Langston Hughes. Haskins

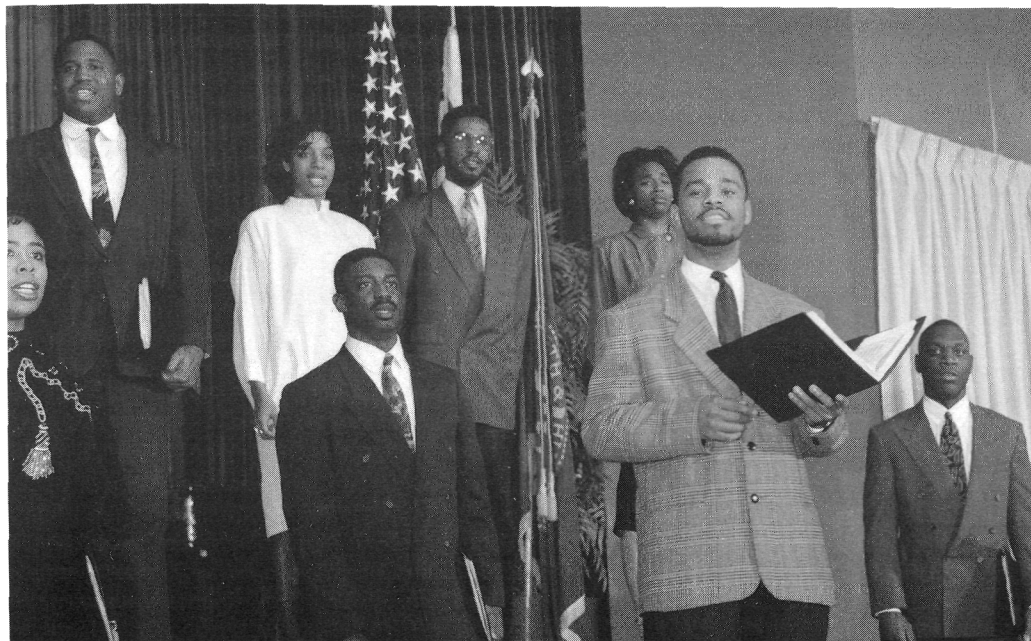
recited Hughes' poem, "Minstrel Man." She also sang "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," and "Every Time I Feel the Spirit," two standard Negro spirituals.

Violinist Rolanda Allison, NCCU assistant professor of music, played two selections by

African-American composers, "Levee Dance," by Clarence Cameron White and "I've Been 'Buked," by Barbara Cook. Pianist Grover Wilson, lecturer and assistant conductor of the NCCU choir, played "Maple Leaf Rag," by Scott Joplin, and a medley of spirituals.



Participating in the first NIEHS King commemorative observance are (from l) Grover Wilson, lecturer and choir director at North Carolina Central University; Arnetta Wicker, program coordinator; Rolanda Allison, NCCU assistant professor of music; Gwendolyn Haskins, retired NCCU assistant professor of music; and Dr. Marian Johnson-Thompson, NIEHS director of institutional development. (Photo: Willy Gibson, NIEHS)



Musical highlights of the King program featured selections by the Howard University Singers, under the direction of Dr. J. Weldon Norris. The choir offered several traditional spirituals including "Amen."

Photos: Bill Branson

similar gatherings nationwide to use their discontent to effect tangible change.

"No longer will singing songs and marching do the job," Jenifer continued. "We used to think that all we had to do was rid ourselves of the racists. And we knew who the racists were then—their necks were red and their eyes were beady, and they made our lives miserable. But we fought and marched to get rid of those folks and now we're worse off than we were before."

No longer are the obvious racists the nature of the problem, Jenifer asserted. Today's problem is institutional racism and all those who are part of an institution must take responsibility for the solution.

"We must begin to turn this thing around," concluded Jenifer. "You can live a full life. But if you don't give back and tell the truth as you see it, your life has been in vain. Those of you with good jobs cannot afford to kick back and feel good...Be bold. Never feel comfortable."

Earlier, during his introduction of Jenifer, John Mahoney, NIH associate director for administration, described NIH's role in fulfilling King's dream.

"Dr. King's philosophy is alive right here at NIH," he said. "We have employees, visiting scientists, students, and research fellows representing the diversity of cultures in the four corners of the Earth, all working together on a common mission to find the cause, cure and treatment of disease."

That commonality of purpose—urged by Jenifer, defined by NIH, but accomplished only through individual effort—was reiterated by the Howard University Singers through the words of their final selection:

"[There's] plenty of room in my Father's kingdom—just choose your seat and sit down."



In a unique interpretation of the "Let My People Go" litany, NIH'ers dressed in multicultural costumes delivered the refrain in their native languages. Employees represented Africa, Argentina, Germany, India, Japan, the Middle East, Native America, Philippines and United States.



Janie M. Lee opened the program with an a cappella rendering of the National Anthem.

BLACK HISTORY

(Continued from Page 1)

opening program, a marrow donor and recruitment program and a luncheon.

The opening program, held Feb. 1, featured keynote speaker Dr. Beverly Coleman-Miller, president of BCM Group, Inc., in Washington, D.C., and a leading authority on the impact of community, social and environmental issues on public health.

The marrow donor awareness and recruitment program, cosponsored by the Black Employment Program, OEO; NHLBI, and the NIH Marrow Donor Program, will be held on Feb. 17, in Masur Auditorium from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Susan Kidd, anchor of WRC-TV's News 4, will deliver the keynote address and will also moderate the panel. The panelists are Dr. Paul McCurdy, chief, Bone Marrow Transplantation Branch, NHLBI; Laquitta Bowers, recruitment coordinator, NIH Marrow Donor Program; Eugene Boyd, a marrow donor; and Roland Campbell, a parent who needs a matching donor for his 22-year-old daughter, Tria. Thousands of Americans are stricken each year with leukemia, aplastic anemia and other fatal blood diseases. For many, their only chance of survival is a bone marrow transplant. Due to the unique characteristics of an individual's bone marrow, the best chance for success rests between donors and patients who share the same racial or ethnic ancestry.

Volunteers of all races are desperately needed; however, as NIH observes African American History Month, OEO is appealing especially to African Americans to become registered donors.

African Americans are needed to save African Americans. Nationwide, there are 653 African Americans who could benefit from a marrow transplant. Currently, more than 650,000 people have volunteered to be potential marrow donors; however, only 4 percent are African Americans. In Baltimore and Washington, approximately 1,400 African Americans are in the National Marrow Donor Registry.

The annual African American History Observance luncheon will be held at the Howard Inn in Washington, D.C. Dr. Percy W. Thomas, III, director, Extramural Associates Program, OD, will be the keynote speaker. In his presentation, "Portraits Of My People," Thomas brings his unusual talent and insight to the subject of freedom. He dramatically depicts the Black man's quest for freedom from slavery to the present through the lives of different historical and fictional characters. The cost of the luncheon is \$20. Bus transportation will be provided by NIH.

For more information or for reasonable accommodation, call 496-6301. □

UM B-Ball Tickets On Sale

R&W has tickets on sale for the University of Maryland basketball game against the University of Virginia, Thursday, Feb. 4 at 8 p.m. Ticket price is \$11 at any R&W location. □



What a delight to see your experiment work. This time it was with electricity.

Photos: Edward Max



Dissecting a cow's heart

SCIENCE ADVENTURES (Continued from Page 1)

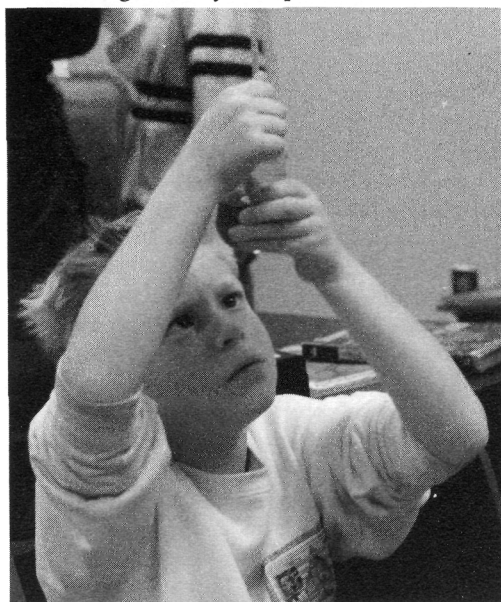
the same concerns and started a program answering that need for his daughter and her friends in his basement in Gaithersburg, Md.

Nash's rationale was that science and mathematics was pretty dull stuff for most kids: even in 1973, he saw a dangerous trend of students not pursuing careers in science. He reasoned that if children could explore the aspects of science that interested them, and have fun doing it, they would see the merits of studying science and math and enroll in those subjects in school.

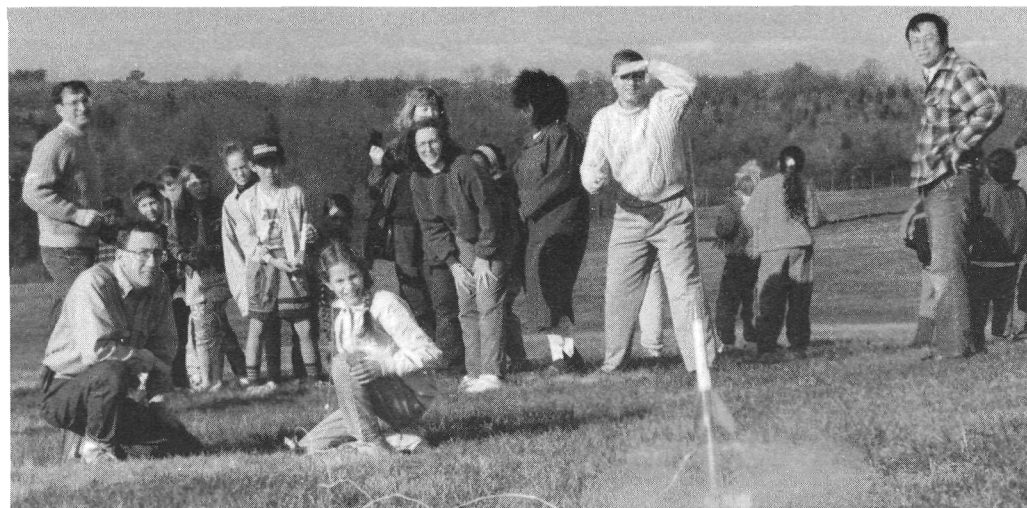
Out of his original basement class of six grew Adventure in Science, Inc., a not-for-profit organization that this year totaled approximately 150 students, with classes held at three sites in the Gaithersburg/Germantown area—Bechtel Power Corp., Communications Satellite Corp. (COMSAT) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

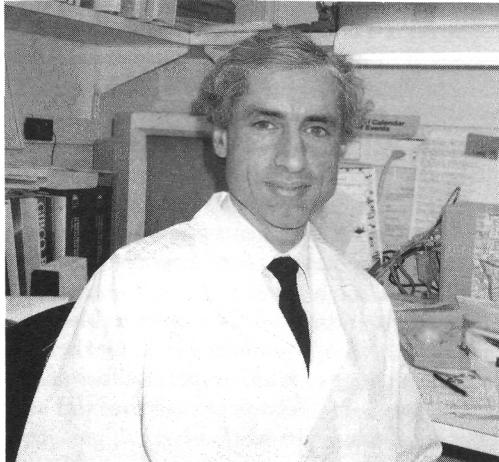
The Adventure in Science (AIS) program continues to provide pre-high school children, ages 8 to 15 years, a chance to explore just about any aspect of science they desire, through a combination of group discussion and individual work at their own level of understanding. This is not a one-time program; the kids may return as many years as they like up to age 15. This program grows as the child grows and the level of his or her questions grow. Students can move at their own pace.

This is Max's third year in the program. He found out about it through a friend interested in enrolling her son in the class. "I had been interested in teaching scientific thinking to kids for a long time," he said. "I got involved with the program for myself, started teaching, and have loved every minute of it since." Classes for AIS begin in November and end in April, when each child is expected to present an independent individual project before teachers, parents, and peers. Verbal skills are considered extremely important and students are asked to keep a research notebook. The overall emphasis of AIS is that children be allowed to explore



Above: AIS'er concentrates on making a perfect rocket. Left: Young scientist creates crystal formations. Below: After making rockets, students get a chance to see if they'll fly. This one sure does.





Dr. Edward Max

what they are interested in without the fear of making mistakes that often dulls the pleasure of learning in a school environment. The classes are held every Saturday for 2 hours (9 to 11 a.m.) at each of the sites. There are usually several topics offered each Saturday and students select the topic they find most interesting. Previous topics have included electrical currents, rocks and minerals, solar energy, microbiology, and medical demonstrations, including dissection of a cow's eye and a cow's heart. "These biomedical topics really seem to grab the kids' interest," Max says.

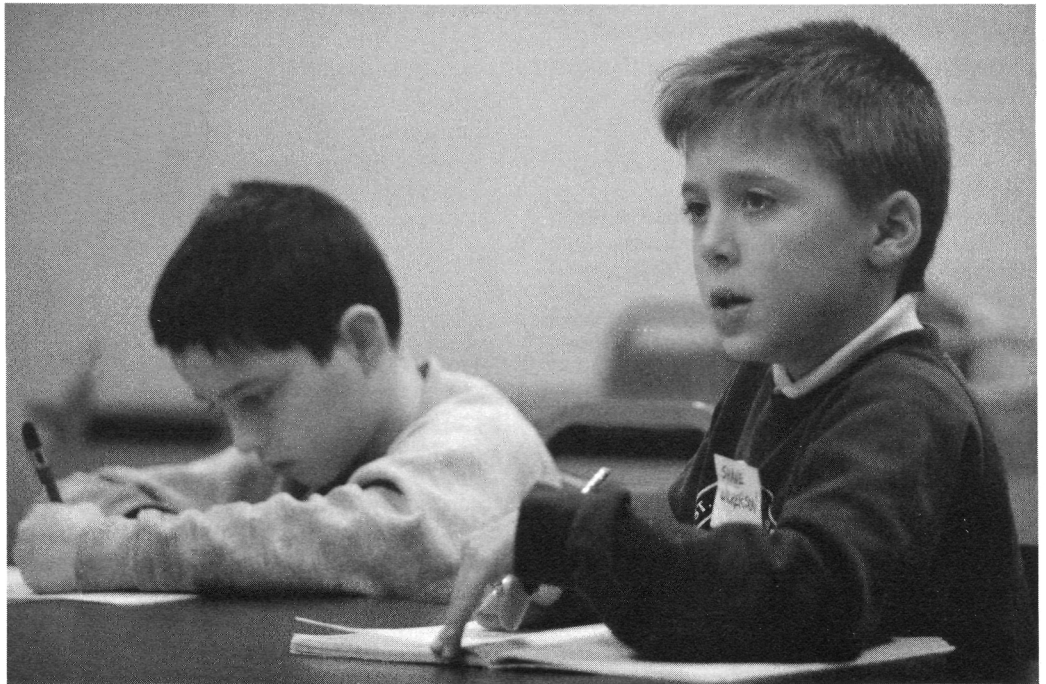
The cost of the program is \$75 per child, per year and parents are asked to volunteer some personal time either teaching or in organizational support roles. At each site, volunteer managers coordinate the classes and volunteers.

AIS also formed a partnership with the 4-H program, under the Department of Agriculture's Cooperative Extension Service. Through this merger, AIS sites have been established in Baltimore and Michigan.

According to Nash, who continues as president of AIS, there is one goal only for Adventure in Science: to show pre-high school children that math and science are so interesting—and so much fun—that students will not avoid the subjects when they get to high school and college.

Max and Nash would like to see an AIS class begun here at NIH and recently gave a presentation to members of NIH's Office of Education and Office of Science Education Policy. This would be the first time for the program to be held at a biomedical facility.

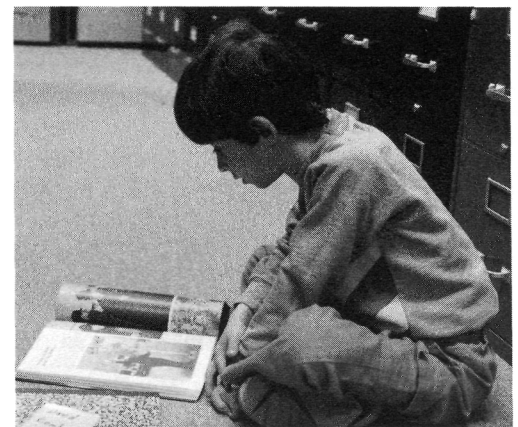
"They (the Offices of Education and Science Education Policy) were very supportive and willing to help us. But, first," he says, "we must get enough volunteers who are willing to sign on for the program, either as teachers or site managers. After we have a list of potential recruits, a meeting will be held to discuss the program in much more detail." If you are interested in volunteering your services as an instructor or manager, or just want information about enrolling your child in the program, call Max, 402-0484.



Keeping your notebook current is a good skill to acquire.



Student checks book to identify twig.



Finding a quiet spot for research project



Students work together in solar energy session.

NCI's Werner Kirsten Is Mourned

Dr. Werner H. Kirsten, a National Cancer Institute associate director who headed the Frederick Cancer Research and Development Center, died suddenly on Dec. 24, at his home in Chicago. He was 67.

An eminent cancer researcher, Kirsten came to NCI in 1988 from the University of Chicago, where he spent most of his career. After joining the Chicago faculty as an assistant professor in 1961, he rose steadily through the professional ranks to become chairman of the pathology department in 1972.

NCI director Dr. Samuel Broder praised Kirsten as "an outstanding administrator and distinguished pathologist," and commended his "many important contributions to our programs, to cancer research and to the cancer research community."

"Above all," continued Broder, Kirsten "was a kind and gentle person and will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues in the National Cancer Program."

First among Kirsten's many notable research contributions was his 1967 discovery of a virus that he showed could cause tumors in mice and rats. Dubbed the Kirsten mouse sarcoma virus, it has since been widely used in animal models of cancer. The virus is also important because it contained one of the earliest known versions of the ras oncogene, a cancer-causing gene that has since been found in many human and animal tumors.

A member of both the U.S. and Canadian



Dr. Werner Kirsten

academies of pathology, Kirsten served for many years on the boards of the Leukemia Society of America and the Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Fund for Cancer Research. He was a past president of the American Cancer Society and served on the editorial boards of several scientific journals, including the *American Journal of Pathology*, *Cancer Research*, and *Leukemia*.

A native of Leipzig, Germany, Kirsten graduated with honors from the University of Frankfurt Medical School. He came to the United States in 1955 to serve an internship at a Chicago hospital and a residency at the University of Chicago. He became a U.S. citizen in 1960. Kirsten is survived by Inger Nielsen, his wife of 32 years; their three sons, Christian, Olaf and Thomas; and a granddaughter.

Harassment Course Offered

The NIH Training Center is sponsoring a course, "Preventing Sexual Harassment at NIH: How to Prevent, Investigate, and Resolve Problems in Your Organization," which will provide practical suggestions and tips for effectively handling sexual harassment at work. Types of harassment recognized by the EEOC and the courts, components of each type, and the critical implications for organizational liability will also be presented.

The course is designed for employees and managers, both of whom need to know the recommendations for and responsibilities of the other. For more information, call the NIH Training Center, 496-6371. □

'Sale' on Yacht Trips

Charter through R&W to set sail for the Sea of Abaco, Bahamas, on the 47-foot yacht Alexandra. The yacht sleeps six adults (including two crew members) in three staterooms and charter price includes all meals (prepared by crew), captain, insurance, dinghy, ice, water, fuel, mooring, and linen. Four-person parties cost \$4,700 per week; couples, \$2,300; individuals, \$1,100. Couples can charter the whole yacht for \$3,900. For more information, call Tracy Rider, 496-6061, days, or Marcia Carlyn, 428-8911, evenings. □

Summer Accommodations Sought

R&W is looking for apartments or rooms for students coming to work at NIH during the summer. Employees may collect rent or let the students stay free-of-charge. If you are willing to provide accommodations between May and mid-September, contact Ruth Sragner, R&W director of operations, 496-6061, by Feb. 5. □

Human Genetic Diversity Meeting Set

The human genetic diversity project is an international interdisciplinary project aimed at revealing as much as possible about the current state of genetic diversity among humans and the processes responsible for that diversity. Plans call for collecting cell or DNA samples from a wide variety of human populations and making this resource available to the scientific community. The organizers of this project, including Drs. Luigi Cavalli-Sforza, Marcus Feldman, Mary-Claire King, Ken Weiss, and Ken Kidd, will review the project and discuss future plans at an open meeting to be held Feb. 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 6. For more information, call Dr. Irene Eckstrand, 496-7137. □

Women Volunteers Needed

The NIDR is seeking female volunteers, ages 30 to 70, for a study of normal salivary glands. Volunteers must be healthy and not be taking any medication. The study involves a minimum of two outpatient visits and two CC overnight stays. Procedures include nuclear medicine tests, blood drawing, and urine collection. Volunteers will be compensated. To learn more, contact Alice, 496-4371. □



Dr. Judith Vaitukaitis, acting NCRR director, meets with Dr. Martin Hirsch, professor of medicine, Harvard Medical School, who spoke about "Future Directions in AIDS Research" at a meeting of the NCRR General Clinical Research Centers Program. Scientists who use this network of 74 research facilities in major teaching hospitals reported their latest findings on AIDS, gene therapy, other new biotechnologies, women's health, and body composition and metabolism.

DCRT Offers Spring Computer Courses

The spring semester of DCRT's Training Program is fast approaching. Through this program, DCRT offers NIH employees a wide range of computer training courses and seminars at no cost. New topics range from understanding computer data structures to ensuring valid experimental results with a minimum of subjects.

One new four-session seminar series, "Experimental Data Analysis," will demonstrate in nontechnical terms how statistical insight in all phases of an experiment or research protocol can improve the quality of the findings while reducing the expenditure of experimental resources such as time spent, number of animals or subjects used, and cost per unit of observation.

"Introduction to Diffusion Theory," a three-session series, will cover aspects of diffusion theory applicable to the description of biological and chemical phenomena. Another seminar, "Physical Models of Cell Locomotion," will meet for a single session to discuss recently published theories on mathematical and physical models of cytoplasm streaming and amoeboid motility.

Another new single-session seminar, "Introduction to Floating Point Arithmetic," will examine discrepancies between exact and floating point arithmetic that can cause errors in scientific computing. "Computer Data Structures" will provide an overview of basic data structure topics including stacks, linked lists, recursion, and binary trees in four sessions.

Quanta is a molecular modeling and simulation package from Molecular Simulations Inc. that operates on Silicon Graphics workstations. A week-long course, "Molecular Modeling with Quanta," will be open to members of the NIH research community who have a need to use Quanta in their research. This hands-on class will prepare students to use Quanta and CHARMM in an actual research application.

In addition to these topics in science, mathematics, and computer science, the program includes new classes in each of the computing platforms: IBM 370, Unix, IBM PC, and Macintosh.

Security and contingency planning are the subject of two new seminars. The "RACF" seminar will describe how the Resource Access Control Facility can be used to provide disk data set security on the IBM 370 mainframe, while "Disaster Recovery" will discuss the measures users can take to protect critical applications.

Gopher is a computer network-based utility for browsing, searching, and retrieving information. The NIH Gopher server, which is installed on the Convex facility, supports a variety of searchable databases of interest to NIH researchers including: tables of contents of current issues of leading scientific journals; the Current Index to Statistics; research labs and

projects at NIH; and the GenBank, PIR, and PDB molecular biology databases. Last term's "Gopher" seminar was attended by more than 200 students. It will be repeated and will be joined by "Using Gopher Clients," which will examine several Gopher clients on a variety of popular computers.

Choosing the best software to run in the new Windows environment on the PC can be daunting. "Windows Application Strategies" will demonstrate software from several categories (word processing, spreadsheets, graphics, etc.) with special emphasis on those considered to be "best in category."

Scientific users of the Macintosh have two new seminars to consider: "Comparing Macintosh Sequence Analysis Programs" and "Scientific Uses of SAS/JMP on the Macintosh."

Most of the classes described here are first-time offerings. Many popular seminars and short courses are being repeated. Altogether, 77 classes are available in the spring term, which runs through late May. For a brochure describing the program, call the DCRT Computer Training Program, 496-2339, or stop by the office in Bldg. 12A, Rm. 1023. □

NIH Sailing Association Social

The NIH Sailing Association welcomes new members to its first social of the year, at the FAES House on Thursday, Feb. 25 from 5 to 8 p.m. Information will be available on the club sailboats and activities, including racing and cruising programs on the Chesapeake Bay. Applications for membership and the spring basic training class will also be available. A cover charge of \$3 will include snacks and soft drinks. For more information, call Gretchen Hascall, 496-4533. □



NIHES director Dr. Kenneth Olden (r) and Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, president of Shaw University, a historically Black institution in Raleigh, N.C., recently joined in a partnership to develop a program that will bridge the gap between the classroom and the workplace and enable students and faculty to learn about, visit, and work in various federal occupations.

DCRT Computer Training Classes

Classes	Dates
Memory Management on the PC—Application Workshop	2/3
NUnet, LAN, and Mainframe Mail Connectivity	2/3
SAS Fundamentals II for Nonprogrammers	2/3-2/4
Getting Started with DB2	2/8-2/10
Macintosh Networking with TCP/IP	2/9
Introduction to Diffusion Theory	2/9, 2/16, 2/23
RACF	2/10
LAN Concepts	2/10
Introduction to Floating-Point Arithmetic	2/11
Intermediate PC-DOS	2/11-2/12
Developing In-House Applications on the Mac	2/12
Introduction to the Convex Supercomputer	2/17
Using the Internet	2/17-2/18
Running SAS Software in the PC-DOS Environment	2/17-2/19
ENTER BBS	2/22
DNAdraw for the Macintosh	2/22
Welcome to the NIH Computer Utility	2/24
Network Services	2/24
New Tools for Genome Sequence Analysis	2/25

Classes are offered by the DCRT Training Program without charge. Call 496-2339 for more information. □

New Services Open at EPS

On Feb. 4, three new services will be opened at Executive Plaza South—R&W store, self-service store, and Ober Travel. The opening ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. with John Mahoney, NIH associate director for administration, and Stephen Ficca, NIH associate director for research services, cutting the ribbon.

The Division of Space and Facility Management, in coordination with the General Services Administration, developed the plans for these facilities. Architects Gerald W. Hines, chief, Space Planning Branch, DSFM, and Andrew Sigamoni handled the project.

Fraternal Twins Sought

NIMH needs fraternal (same sex) twins for a study of brain function. Volunteers must be between the ages of 18 and 80, be taking no medications, and have no history of major medical or psychiatric illness. Procedure involves mapping brain structure with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and mapping brain function with positron emission tomography (PET) while subjects perform various problem-solving tests. The PET scan involves exposure to an amount of radiation that is within both NIH and FDA guidelines. Volunteers will be paid. For information contact Jill Ostrem, 402-3682. □

Discount Lift Tickets Available

Hit the slopes at Whitetail with R&W discounted ski lift tickets. Available for \$24 are midweek tickets valid Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. or 2 to 10 p.m.; and for \$18, evening tickets valid 7 days a week from 5 to 10 p.m. Some restrictions apply. For more information call Tracy Rider, 496-6061. □

Thelma Dunn, Former NCI Scientist, Dies at Age 92

By Francis X. Mahaney, Jr.

Dr. Thelma Brumfield Dunn, one of the world's foremost cancer pathologists and a former NCI scientist, died of congestive heart failure on New Year's Eve at a Lynchburg, Va., nursing home. She was 92 years old.

Dunn, who worked at NCI from 1942 until her retirement in 1970, was known by her peers as "The First Lady of Cancer Research," most notably for her research on the pathogenesis of cancer in animals, particularly the laboratory mouse. During most of her career, she served in the Laboratory of Pathology.

"The fact that Thelma Dunn was the world's leading authority on the pathology of the mouse was uncontested," said fellow cancer researcher Dr. Michael Potter. "Quietly, graciously, forcefully, she was dedicated to the cause of cancer research—as only a pathologist could understand—and she walked the extra mile to promote a better understanding of this formidable problem and encouraged others to do the same."

Potter said that Dunn's lab was always open to young scientists and she made her vast knowledge freely available to them. Her studies included research on mammary tumors, reticulum-cell sarcomas, leukemias, plasma-cell tumors, mast-cell tumors, cervical cancers, and liver tumors of the mouse.

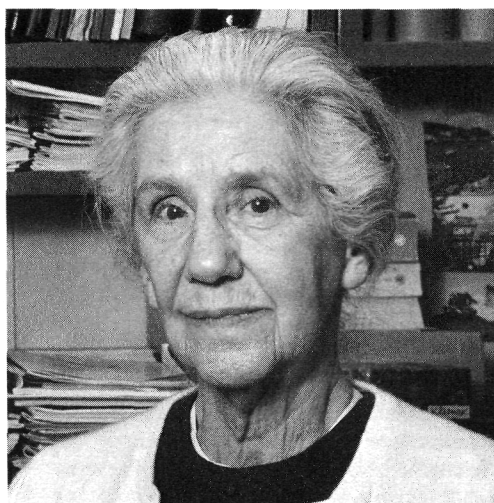
"She discovered the protein-secreting, plasma-cell tumors that originate in the ileocecal region of mice, a finding that initiated a program of animal research leading to a better understanding of fatal human cancers, such as multiple myeloma," said her colleague Dr. Harold L. Stewart.

Dunn also developed cell lines of a transplantable mouse mast-cell tumor, which was widely used as a valuable research tool in other cancer laboratories. She was among the first experimental pathologists to appreciate the need for proper classifications of the different histologic types of mouse tumors of given anatomic sites and systems, and to compare them with corresponding cancers of humans and other species.

The Dunn histologic classification of mammary tumors of the mouse made possible scientific correlations of animal age, strain, genetics, breeding, hormonal state, and the etiology of neoplasms. Cancer investigators worldwide adopted Dunn's "sorting scheme" for their experiments on mouse mammary cancers.

She was the first investigator to recognize the significant initial changes in the cells and tissues of animals during the latent period between the time of inoculation of the leukemia-inducing Moloney virus and the onset of leukemia.

In 1959, Dunn was named Medical Woman of the Year by the American Medical Women's Association. In 1962, she was recipient of the



Dr. Thelma Brumfield Dunn

Federal Women's Award. During that same period, she received the HEW Distinguished Service Award for her efforts in cancer research. She was elected president of the Washington Society of Pathologists in 1959, and president of the American Association for the Advancement of Cancer Research 3 years later.

During the 1960's and well into the early 1970's, she conducted numerous studies relating to environmental cancer and on estrogenic drugs in mice for clues to cancer prevention in humans.

Dunn was born in Renan, Va., the daughter of a public health physician. When she was 13 years old, she accompanied and assisted her father in treating patients with hookworm disease. She later recalled how she often accompanied her father over nearly impassable trails by horse and muleback. At the time there were no trains or paved roads in Dickinson County. But, as difficult as these mountain passes were, she found the mountaintop views breathtaking.

Dunn did not enroll in elementary school until she was 9 years old. Nevertheless, she later earned degrees from Cornell University and the University of Virginia Medical School. She interned at Bellevue Hospital in New York, and did her pathology residency at the University of Virginia, where she was appointed assistant professor of pathology from 1928 to 1930. She later taught at Georgetown University Medical School, and worked at George Washington University Medical School in Washington, where in 1940 and 1941 she published two important papers comparing hypertensive heart disease in white and Black women.

She lived in the Washington metropolitan area for more than 40 years before moving to Charlottesville, Va., in 1970, and then to Lynchburg in 1980.

Her husband, Dr. William L. Dunn, died in 1982. She is survived by two sons, William

Hunter Dunn of Santa Cruz, Calif., and Dr. John T. Dunn of Charlottesville; a daughter, Mary Dunn Degges of Hollis, N.H.; two sisters, and eight grandchildren. □

Wright, Retired DRG Scientist, Dies

Dr. Robert Stuart Wright, 79, died Jan. 4 at the Cameron Glenn Care Center in Reston, Va., after a long illness. He worked for 25 years at NIH, first as a grants associate and later as a research scientist with the Division of Research Grants. He retired from NIH in 1988.

Born in New York City on Jan. 31, 1913, and raised in Burlington, Vt., Wright received a Ph.D. in psychology and English from the University of Vermont, an M.A. in sociology from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in human development from the University of Chicago. He was a professor at Jaffna College in Ceylon from 1939 to 1942.

He married Margaret Peyton Haworth in 1943 at the Providence Meeting House in Media, Pa. He was a conscientious objector to war and worked for the Civilian Public Service during WWII as a normal volunteer. As volunteers for the American Friends service committee, he and his wife did community development work in India and Pakistan from 1946 to 1948 and were proud to have worked with Gandhi.

Wright held teaching positions at Michigan State University, George Williams College, the University of Virginia extension, and Howard University between 1950 and 1963. He also worked for Science Research Associates, the Public Health Service, and Applied Psychology Corp. during those years.

The Wrights settled in Falls Church in 1953 where they reared their three children. He worked for the Peace Corps from 1962 to 1963 before making his career at NIH from 1963 to 1988.

Wright was listed in *American Men of Science* and *Leaders in American Science*. His professional memberships included the American Psychological Association, Eastern Psychological Association, District of Columbia Psychological Association, American Sociological Association, American Association of University Professors and American Association for the Advancement of Science.

He was also a commander of Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 7-10. His passions were sailing, classical music, hiking and camping. Having a particular fondness for sailing the Chesapeake Bay, Wright was also active in the NIH Sailing Club as both an officer and an instructor.

He is survived by his wife, of Media, Pa.; sons John of Dunedin, Fla., and Robert of San Diego; daughter, Rebecca of Pearl City, Hawaii; and grandson, Nicholas of Dunedin.



TRAINING TIPS

The NIH Training Center, Division of Personnel Management, offers these "hands-on" IBM and Macintosh computer courses:

<i>Personal Computing Training</i>	<i>496-6211</i>
<i>Course Titles</i>	<i>Starting Dates</i>
Welcome to Macintosh	2/23, 3/3, 3/25
Adv. Macintosh Techniques	3/15
MacWrite	2/16
Intro to WordPerfect 2.0 (Mac)	2/17, 3/22
Adv. Microsoft Word 5.0	3/17
Excel-4.0 Level 1	3/9
Excel-4.0 Level 2	3/16
Excel-4.0 Level 3	3/23
Lotus for Mac-Level 1	upon request
Lotus for Mac-Level 2	upon request
Intro to Filemaker PRO	3/8
Adv. 4th Dimension	3/1
FoxBASE 2.01-Level 1	upon request
FoxBASE 2.01-Level 2	upon request
MacDraw PRO	3/10
Adv. Pagemaker	3/4
QuarkXpress-Level 1	2/24
MORE III	upon request
3Com PC Network-Level 1	3/10
3Com PC Network Management	upon request
Intro to Personal Computing for New Users	2/22, 3/26
Disaster Recovery/Data Security for the PC	3/24
Intro to DOS	2/19, 3/8, 3/26
Intro to Windows 3.1	3/2, 3/24
WordPerfect for Windows	2/17, 3/8
Lotus for Windows (new)	2/9, 3/15
PageMaker for Windows (new)	2/24, 3/25
Excel for Windows (new)	3/3
Project for Windows (new)	3/18, 3/30
Intro to WordPerfect 5.1	2/8, 3/9
WordPerfect 5.1-Adv. Topics	3/2
Desktop Publishing w/WP 5.1 (new)	3/9
Intro to Harvard Graphics, Rel. 3.0	2/22, 3/22
Intermed. Harvard Graphics, Rel. 3.0	3/5
Intro to Paradox	3/10
Adv. Paradox	2/17, 3/9
Paradox PAL	2/23
Intro to dBASE IV	2/16
Intro to dBASE III+	upon request
Intro to Lotus 1-2-3, Rel. 2.4	3/1
Lotus 1-2-3, Rel. 2.4-Adv. Tops.	3/15
Intermed. Symphony	2/24

OPM Offers Leadership Program

OPM recently announced the Fiscal Year 1993 Women's Executive Leadership Program (WELP), which is open to full-time, permanent federal employees at the GS-11 and GS-12 levels or salary-comparable wage grade or foreign service employees. WELP provides leadership training and developmental opportunities for high-potential federal employees to prepare them for future positions as supervisors and managers. The program includes a week-long orientation session, individual needs assessments and development plans, offsite training sessions, 30- to 60-day developmental assignments, shadowing assignments, management readings, and a program impact paper.

Nomination deadline date is Mar. 19. For more information, contact your institute personnel officer, or call Jill Ippel, 496-6371. □

Frank Rauscher, Former NCI Director, Is Mourned

Dr. Frank J. Rauscher, Jr., 62, a former director of the National Cancer Institute who also had served as senior vice president and research director of the American Cancer Society, died Dec. 31 in Nyack, N.Y., after a heart attack. He lived in Weston, Conn.

Rauscher, a former Bethesda and Rockville resident, had worked for NCI from 1959 to 1976. During his years at NCI, he served as head of the viral oncology section and etiology director before becoming institute director in 1971. He held that post for 5 years before resigning in 1976.

Rauscher was a highly regarded director, a man of undoubted accomplishment in the lab as well as an effective administrator and accomplished advocate on Capitol Hill. But he told colleagues that with five children to send through college, he could no longer afford to make due on an annual government salary of \$37,000.

He left NCI and joined the American Cancer Society in New York, where he worked until 1988, directing a research program that was about one-twentieth the size of the program he directed at NCI.

Since 1988, he had been executive director of the Thermal Insulation Manufacturers' Association in Stamford, Conn. There, he helped direct research on noncarcinogenic thermal insulation materials to replace asbestos.

Rauscher, a native of Hellertown, Pa., was a graduate of Moravian College, in Bethlehem, Pa., and received a doctorate in virology from Rutgers University. Before coming to the Washington area, he had been a research assistant and assistant virology professor at Rutgers.

At NCI, he discovered a murine leuke-



Dr. Frank J. Rauscher, Jr.

mia virus that now bears his name. The Rauscher leukemia virus is widely used in such areas as cancer and AIDS research.

In 1965, Rauscher was named one of the 10 outstanding young men by the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce. Three years later, he was named a recipient of the Arthur S. Flemming Award for outstanding federal executives for his research linking cancer to viruses.

During his years at NCI, Rauscher served on governing and scientific boards of the International Agency for Research on Cancer in Lyon, France. He was the author of 70 technical papers on microbiology, virology, viral oncology, and science management. He also lectured widely.

Survivors include his wife Margaret, of Weston; three sons, David K. of Westport, Conn., Dr. Frank III of Princeton, N.J., and Michael P. of Ridgefield, Conn.; two daughters, Mary A. and Megan C. Rauscher, both of Westport; his father, Frank Sr., a brother, Kenneth, and a sister, Lois Grigoruk, all of Hellertown; and two grandchildren.

Gilbert Woodside, Retired NICHD Deputy, Dies

Dr. Gilbert Llewellyn Woodside, 83, a developmental biologist and former deputy director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, died Dec. 14 at a health care center in Delray Beach, Fla., after a stroke.

Woodside came to NICHD in 1964 and served as assistant to the director for scientific program planning and development, and acting program director, Reproduction Program. He was associate director for extramural programs from 1967 to 1975. He was deputy director of the institute from 1975 to 1978 and acting director from 1974 to 1975.

Woodside was born in Curwensville, Pa.,

and received his graduate education at Harvard University. After receiving a Ph.D. in biology in 1936, he joined the faculty of the University of Massachusetts where he served as professor of biology, head of the department of zoology, dean of the graduate school, and finally, provost. Woodside retired from federal service on Dec. 15, 1978. A former resident of Kensington, he moved to Florida in 1989.

Survivors include his wife, Mary L. Woodside of Delray Beach; two sons, Richard Livingston Woodside of Wenham, Mass., and Kenneth Hall Woodside of Miami; and four granddaughters.

NIA Brings Alzheimer's Care to Minority, Rural Populations

By Kate Egan

Responding to the cry for increased medical research and healthcare for minorities, the National Institute on Aging has established satellite clinics for its Alzheimer's Disease Centers (ADCs). While most ADCs are located at major university medical schools, the satellite clinics reach needy rural and underserved patients unable to travel to the larger medical centers.

One of the newest of the 27 satellite clinics provides assistance in diagnosing and managing Alzheimer's disease (AD) for the Cherokee nation. Located in Talequah, Okla., at W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital, the clinic is affiliated with the ADC of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. ADC director Dr. Roger Rosenberg established the satellite in collaboration with Dr. Ralph Richter of St. John Medical Center in Tulsa, Dr. David Dean, psychiatrist, and Wilma Mankiller, principal chief of the Cherokee nation. The 70,000 Cherokees comprise the largest Native American group in Oklahoma, with 6,000 of them age 65 years or older.

"We are eager to work with the Cherokee nation," said Rosenberg. "We offer the special care needed for older patients with cognitive

impairment. In turn we'll be able to learn about AD in the Indian population, a group for whom there is currently no existing data at all."

Before the launch of this program in 1990, patients of the ADC programs were predominantly Caucasian, fairly well-educated members of the middle class. The satellite centers will diversify the patient pool for clinical trials, which should produce more generalizable research findings. Expanded information on minorities and special populations with AD will aid investigation of the genetics of AD and studies of caregiving and family burden in these groups. Other satellite centers have been founded to serve the Hispanic and African-American populations in areas such as Harlem and Detroit, as well as rural groups in 13 states.

Satellite clinic physicians do not actually conduct research, but offer patients an opportunity to participate in research protocols and clinical drug trials via the ADCs. Scientists at ADCs across the country translate research advances into improved care for current AD patients, trying to ease debilitating symptoms such as memory loss, disorientation and impaired thinking processes. □

Tax Seminars for Foreign Scientists

FIC's International Services and Communications Branch (ISCB) is hosting free tax seminars to help foreign scientists understand the U.S. income tax system.

Thirteen sessions have been scheduled beginning Feb. 22 through Mar. 23. The locations and times vary but will be announced in the *NIH Calendar of Events* (yellow sheet). Sessions will be held on the Bethesda campus as well as at NIH sites in Frederick, Baltimore, and Research Triangle Park, N.C. The talks will cover federal and state annual returns as well as such special issues as tax treaty benefits. The seminars are open to NIH visiting program participants, nonimmigrant guest researchers, special volunteers, nonimmigrants on expert or expert consultant appointments, FIC scholars-in-residence, FIC international research fellows, and other nonimmigrant scientists officially at NIH. Call the ISCB Volunteer Services Office, 496-7357, for a copy of the schedule.

The ISCB also offers free, one-on-one tax consultations for NIH foreign scientists. The tax consultant will not prepare forms, but will advise scientists about problems and procedures. To schedule an appointment, call 496-6166. Your tax appointment should be scheduled for a date after the seminar you plan to attend. □

NIEHS Holds National Forum on K-12 Environmental Science Curriculum

NIEHS recently held an education forum, with 40 educators, scientists and policymakers in attendance, to establish an environmental health sciences curriculum for students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Coordinating the forum was Dr. Marian Johnson-Thompson, NIEHS director of institutional development, who noted that concern about the environment as related to human health already provides a unifying experience in science education in some classrooms around the country.

"Teachers who participated in the forum were especially glad to be included at the inception of this national effort," she said. "Sometimes teachers feel that they are only approached after all the decisions have been made."

Keynote speaker for the forum was Steven Boyarsky, an Einstein congressional fellow and science teacher at North Medford High School in Medford, Ore. He emphasized that the turning point in any educational effort is getting a consensus from the community about what the schools should be doing.

Working sessions were held on topics such as: how K-12 science educators perceive and define the environmental health sciences; the needs at the local, state and national levels that must be addressed in developing programs in the environmental health sciences; models that already exist that might be useful in incorporating environmental health sciences activities into the K-12 science curriculum; and barriers to the



Among those leading the environmental health sciences education forum were (from l): Melva Okun, associate director, Environmental Resource Program and founder and president of Environmental Educators of N.C.; Dr. Marian Johnson-Thompson, NIEHS director of institutional development; and Steven Boyarsky, science teacher at North Medford High School, Medford, Ore.

development of K-12 science curricula geared toward the environment.

The forum generated many ideas and approaches—the importance of coordinating the many resources available through government, the private sector, schools, and the research community; and the importance of identifying existing programs that work and using them more widely, stated Johnson-Thompson.

"All children need to have their understanding of science enhanced as they advance through school," said NIEHS director Dr. Kenneth

Olden. "As citizens and voters, everyone needs a good, updated grasp of the sciences." □

Healthy Volunteers Needed

The Laboratory of Psychology and Psychopathology, NIMH, is looking for normal volunteers to participate in a neuropsychological study. Healthy women and men, ages 35-60 with no more than a college education (16 or fewer years), are needed. Volunteers will be paid for their time. For more information, contact Sandy Wilkiss, 496-7674. □